

## **ACTION ITEM**

### **Approval of University of California Davis Telemetry Research Contract Amendment**

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**Summary:** Staff recommends the Council approve a contract amendment with the University of California, Davis that would extend the term of agreement from June 30, 2018 to May 31, 2020. The amendment would increase the current budget by \$250,010, raising the total to \$1,750,010.

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#### **Requested Action**

Staff recommends that the Council approve an amendment to an existing contract with the University of California, Davis that was originally approved by the Council on April 28, 2016. This contract is set to expire on June 30, 2018, and the amendment would extend the expiration date until May 31, 2020 and add additional funds in the amount of \$250,000. The additional time and funds will allow researchers to continue a salmon tracking study that is critical to the re-introduction of Chinook salmon to the San Joaquin River as required by the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement of 2006. The US Bureau of Reclamation, through the San Joaquin River Restoration Program, has procured funding beginning January 2020, so the proposed amendment will serve to fill the one-year funding gap for 2019.

The Executive Officer has delegated authority up to \$500,000 to enter into contracts and interagency agreements on the Council's behalf. Because this contract exceeds that amount, the amendment requires Council approval.

#### **Background**

As part of its mission to build the science infrastructure, the Delta Science Program provides funding for research studies. In this capacity, the Council initially funded this study in Fiscal Year 2015/2016. In the contract, a large portion of the funds were provided to build the necessary network of telemetry receivers throughout the lower San Joaquin River and Delta. Upon project completion, these network receivers will be available to be used in a long-term Delta telemetry network for use by all science efforts consistent with the Science Action Agenda and complementary to the Interagency Ecological Program's science strategy, and the Resources Agency's Salmonid Resiliency Strategy. Building a long-term telemetry network has been a long-standing priority for Delta scientists.

To improve the survival of juvenile salmon migrating to the ocean, it is necessary to determine the location, timing and under what environmental conditions mortality of juveniles is observed. In addition, data must be collected over several years and during

different water year types to adequately understand the needs of salmonids, salmon migration rates and survival. This information will be key to implementing restoration that can be tailored to suit the needs of out-migrating juvenile salmonids, which falls under Delta Plan Ecosystem Restoration Policy 4 - Expand Floodplains and Riparian Habitats in Levee Projects. Furthermore, the project is a key research element in the Salmonid Resiliency Strategy of the California Natural Resources Agency, and its additional scope is a high-priority recommendation by the Collaborative Adaptive Management Team (CAMT). This contract amendment will contribute a significant additional benefit in assessing certain habitat characteristics that may contribute to the survival patterns on juvenile outmigration routes observed during the first year of data collection efforts.

### **Fiscal Information**

Description	Estimated budget		
	Original	Requested Amendment	NEW Total
<i>Personnel</i>	\$546,772	\$126,899	\$673,671
<i>Travel</i>	\$34,720	\$11,040	\$45,760
<i>Materials and Supplies</i>	\$444,561	\$30,262	\$474,823
<i>Equipment</i>	\$223,258	\$25,000	\$248,258
Other direct costs	\$1,152	\$14,761	\$15,913
<i>Indirect costs ( @ 25% for UC)</i>	\$249,537	\$42,048	\$291,585
Total	\$1,500,000	\$250,010	\$1,750,010

### **Attachments**

No attachments.

### **Contacts**

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